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PATROL REPORTS

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STATION: OKSAPMIN

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: OKARMIN - WEST 92114 ACC. NO: 496
VOL. NO: 4 1965-66 NUMBERS OF REPORTS

NUMBERS OF REPORTS: 2 .

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Kor

District of.....SEPIK/ OKSAPMIN.....Report No.....1 of 1965/66

Patrol Conducted by.....W. HEATHCOTE PATROL OFFICER.....

Area Patrolled.....ON RIVER AREA.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....NIL
1 NCO. 4 CONST POLICE, 3 INTERPRETERS.

Natives.....1 HO. 65 CARRIERS.

Duration—From.....28 6 65.....to.....17 7 19 65.

Number of Days.....TWENTY.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....NO.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../ 4 / 19 65.

Medical NIL / 19.....

Map Reference.....SKETCH MAP ATTACHED.....

Objects of Patrol.....CONSOLIDATION, ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.....

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....

Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

67-8-2

9th September, 1965.

District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

OKSAPMIN PATROL REPORT NO. 1/1965-66:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of the very interesting patrol report of Mr. Heathcote covered by your memo 67-3-18/165 of 6th August, 1965.

2. The comments of Mr. Wearne and yourself were noted.

3. Mr. Heathcote should be complimented on this interesting report. The patrol has obviously been conducted in a thorough and conscientious manner and undoubtedly it provides much useful information of these isolated people who live in the Oksapmin area.

(T.G. Aitchison)
A/DIRECTOR.



67-3-18/65

Department of District Administration,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

6th August, 1965

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Subdistrict Office,
TELEFOMIN.

OKSAPMIN PATROL No. 1 of 1965/66

Thank you for the report of the above patrol conducted by Mr. Heathcote, Patrol Officer, into the Om River area.

This is a very interesting report on which Mr. Heathcote is to be complimented. The patrol has obviously been conducted in a thorough and conscientious manner and provides much useful information on these isolated people.

Your comment re an aerial survey of the area north of Emiapmin and Duranmin is noted and your advice re drop sites is awaited.

The patrol proposed for October should endeavour likewise to locate the Kotufu River so that the boundaries of the subdistrict will be known.

I agree that the visit by Mr. Heathcote to Lake Kopiago with some of the Oksapmin leaders is a good proposal administratively and permission is granted for him to do so.

Your other comments are noted and I concur with
tb./m.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

→ c.c. The Director, Department of District Administration, Konedobu



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference. 67-1-2

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration,

SubDistrict Office,

TELEFOMIN

28th July, 1965.

District Commissioner,
Sepik District,

WEWAK

OKSAPMIN PATROL NO.1 OF 1965/66

Please find enclosed two copies of the report of the above patrol by Mr. W. Heathcote, Patrol Officer. Claims for Camping Allowance and Sketch Maps are attached.

Native Affairs

A successful patrol. Mr. Heathcote's reception is a reflection of the patient work of his predecessors as well as of the fact that he sent notice of the advent of the patrol to these people.

The new rest house of Suamin and the clearing of tracks in some areas is evidence of successful extension of influence.

I support Mr. Heathcote's recommendation for fixing (once and for all) the name DURANMIN.

The information on the Sisimin group from the Lake Kapiago SubDistrict is interesting. In line with the comments of Mr. Linsley on Oksapmin Patrol No.2-64/65 it is proposed that Mr. Heathcote visit Lake Kapiago in September with some Oksapmin leaders to broaden the outlook of these people and also to enable discussion with the Assistant District Commissioner. Lake Kapiago, on Sisimin people of the District border area.

Uncontacted Groups.

When weather and aircraft permit an aerial survey of the area north of Emiapmin and Duranmin will be made to locate these groups and to seek an air-drop site.

It is proposed that a patrol will seek to make initial contact in October.

Future Administration

To date Oksapmin officers seem to have regarded the Nene River as the SubDistrict and District Boundary. However the attachment to your memorandum 1-1-16/66 of 17th November, 1960 indicates that a stream known as the Kotufu forms that boundary.

Unfortunately I have not yet found any maps including patrol maps showing such a stream. I will have Mr. Heathcote enquire into this at Lake Kapiago. I am anxious that patrolling officers know the location on the ground, of such a border for obvious reasons.

This detailed report adequately describes a successful patrol.

J.M. Wearne
(J.M. Wearne)
Assistant District Commissioner.

Attach.

la
BRATIC
M
REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P.& N.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

SEN. CONST. NUWONGET NO. 526B

This was this members first patrol from Oksapmin and he found it tough going. Work only fair but it is felt that he will improve with experience in areas such as this. Conduct good.

CONST. YANOFA NO. 8697

Gave his usual good service. Is an excellent worker and an asset to any patrol. Conduct good at all times.

CONST WASINOK No. 8991

Extremely useful as has excellent knowledge of the area. Can speak part of the OM River language and this proved to be useful. Rather conceited but one gets used to it. Is a good worker and conduct was good.

CONST KURUBAL No. 9070

A ~~quite~~ quiet constable who does his work well. This also was this members first visit to the area and he performed well. Conduct good.

CONST OVRISIM No 7404

A useful constable well suited to this type of patrol work. Is a good worker and conduct was good.

(3)

PATROL REPORT OKSAPMIN NO 1 of 1965/66

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.HEATHCOTE PATROL OFFICER

ACCOMPANIED BY: 5 MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C.
3 INTERPRETERS, TH.O. CARRIERS.

AREA PATROLLED: OM RIVER AREA.

DURATION OF PATROL: 28/6/65 to 17/7/65

NUMBER OF DAYS: TWENTY.

OBJECTS OF PATROL: CONSOLIDATION AND ROUTINE
ADMINISTRATION.

MAP REFERENCE: SEE MAP ATTACHED.

Departed KHEM KHEM on 28/6/65. Patrol area was the
OM RIVER AREA. The patrol was conducted by W. Heathcote
and 5 members of the R.P. & N.G.C. 3 interpreters and 3
th.O. carriers. The patrol was conducted in the OM RIVER
AREA. The patrol was conducted in the OM RIVER AREA.

Summary of patrol:

Departed KHEM KHEM on 28/6/65. Patrol area was the
OM RIVER AREA. The patrol was conducted by W. Heathcote
and 5 members of the R.P. & N.G.C. 3 interpreters and 3
th.O. carriers. The patrol was conducted in the OM RIVER
AREA. The patrol was conducted in the OM RIVER AREA.
on

PATROL DIARY.

(A)

Monday, 28th June 1965.

Morning prepared for patrol. Patrol party departed station 1500 on route BETIANA. Self departed 1630 arriving BETIANA 1515. Camp already set up. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 29th June 1965.

Departed BETIANA 0810, through LINDANA 0830 and arrived DISANA 0910. People awaiting patrol and spoke to them on various matters. Small pox vaccinations given by Hospital orderly. Moved off 0940, H.O. to follow when injections completed. Arrived IUA 1120 and camp set up. Spoke with people and afternoon small pox vaccinations given by H.O. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 30th June 1965.

Departed IUA 0800, walked along crest of ridge and started descending 0845 arriving KUTIK 1030. People in attendance and talks with them. Native foods and a pig purchased. P.M. in company with village leaders walked to ceremonial house, 1 hour away. Inspected and returned to camp. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 1st July 1965.

Departed KUTIK 5000' ASL 0830, descending most of the time and passed previous patrols camp site 1145. Rested and carriers regrouped, moving on again 1215 arriving OGON River 1315 3100' ASL. Area cleared on opposite bank and camp set up. Remained overnight.

Friday, 2nd July 1965.

Departed OGON River camp site C745, walked away from the river through flat secondary growth and linked up with OGON River again at 0845. Followed river down crossing and recrossing until near OM River 0930. Rested and regrouped carriers. 1000 Started following OM River upstream and arrived camp site of Mr. Wilson 1230. 2200' ASL. Area cleared and camp set up. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 3rd July 1965.

Departed camp site 0810, continued following OM River upstream and arrived cane suspension bridge 0850. Bridge in good condition and crossing completed by 0920. Commenced climbing up steep slope arriving crest 0935 2800' ASL. Thence descended to FU River 2300' ASL. Started to clear area for camp at Mr. Wilsons camp site on opposite bank, however, whilst in the midst of this the SUAMIN headman and some of his group arrived stating that they had built a new rest house a short way upstream on the banks of the FU River. Decided to move up there and did so, 15 minutes walk away. Camp set up. All of SUAMIN group into camp in afternoon and sago and tapioca roots purchased. H.O. administered small pox vaccinations. Spoke with people regarding Administration policy. Remained overnight.

(56)

Sunday, 4th July 1965.

Remained at camp site on banks of FU River. Visited fortress type house 15 minutes walk upstream. Inhabited only by two small children and one old male. Informed through Interpreter MANGITIPNOX that remained of group collecting food for purchase by the patrol. Late afternoon SUAMIN group into camp again and good supply of native foods purchased. No sweet potato available but plentiful supply of tapioca, some sugar cane, cucumbers and pumpkins. Remained overnight.

Monday, 5th July 1965.

Departed camp site 0800, followed FU River downstream for 15 minutes and then broke off into bush, crossed KURU Creek and at foot of slope 0825 2300' ASL. Commenced climbing and reached old and deserted SUAMIN house 0915, 3700' ASL. Rested ten minutes and carriers regrouped. Continued climbing and reached crest of range 1010, 5000' ASL. Twenty minutes rest while carriers regrouped and off again 1030 descending slowly down side of range. Half way down met up with two DURANMIN males who had been sent by headman to check on patrols arrival. Arrived KEINU River 1220, 3000' ASL. Another twenty minute rest for carriers to regroup. Moved off again 1240 and arrived DURANMIN rest house 1325, 3640' ASL. Camp set up. Most of the DURANMIN present and spoke to them on Administration matters. Small pox vaccinations given by H.O. Ample native foods purchased. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 6th July 1965.

Remained DURANMIN. Talks with males regarding population to NE and North of campsite. Apparently two groups named AKIARMIN and WUNAGABEN who have not been sighted by patrols. Good information gathered and hope to obtain more at EMIAPMIN. Again good supply of native foods purchased, more than enough for patrols needs and will carry surplus on to next camp site. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 7th July 1965.

Departed rest house 0740, descended to KEINU River 0800. Followed along river crossing and recrossing until 0910, 2400' ASL. Started climbing and at top of first small crest 0940, 3000' ASL. Descended down to ARURU Creek 0940, then climbed again reaching crest 1035, 3960' ASL. Descended to KIAKMIN camp 1105. Spoke with people in large house and then descended to KURU River, 5 minutes walk away. 2400' ASL. Camp set up at rest house. Most of KIAKMIN group and some MONDUAMIN into camp in afternoon. MONDUAMIN people asked of rest of groups whereabouts and information given. Spoke with people regarding Administration policy and small pox vaccinations given by H.O. Again ample native foods purchased, and as the patrol will not sight population for the next two days surplus will be carried on. Remained overnight.

(6)

Thursday, 8th July 1965.

Departed KIAKMIN camp site 0815, following KURU River. Kept this up crossing and recrossing until 1030 where a halt of thirty minutes was made for the carriers to regroup. Off again 1100 still following river and arrived camp site of previous officer 1530. Camp set up on small hill overlooking KURU River. 2100' ASL. No population in this area. Carriers fed from native foods purchased at DURANMIN and KIAKMIN. Remained overnight.

Friday, 9th July 1965.

Departed camp site 0840 still following KURU River crossing and recrossing. Difficulties encountered as no rain and water low. Rested 0940 for carriers to regroup and off again 1010 striking inland, and at crest of ridge 1100 2700' ASL. Descended to SABUMO Creek 1115, 2300' ASL, followed this creek downstream until 1200 when linked up with KEINU Creek 1900' ASL. Followed this creek upstream arriving camp site 1230. Camp set up. Some of the KIAKMIN group arrived later in the afternoon and will process sago for purchase by the patrol on its return from EMIAPMIN. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 10th July 1965.

Departed campsite 0705, followed KEINU Creek upstream until 0740, then broke away from water and commenced climbing arriving crest of ridge 0900, 4200' ASL. Rested and off again 0915 descending at first slowly and then rapidly to NENE River which was reached at 1045, 2340' ASL. Rest of fifteen minutes to allow carriers to regroup and on again 1100 following NENE River downstream. At 1125 rounding a bend in the river the patrol encountered two EMIAPMIN males who, when questioned, stated that with others of their group they had come down to the NENE River to process sago. However, that morning the group, with the exception of the two males had all gone back to their camp leaving the two men to await the patrol. (Word of its coming having been given by Interpreter WUNTOT who had visited the area some two weeks prior) With the two EMIAPMIN males leading the patrol broke away from the NENE River into bush on the left bank and commenced climbing. Walked over a small hill and descended to MURU Creek (not to be confused with MURU Creek that drains into the FU RIVER) 1145, 2800' ASL. Climbed steadily again and reached crest 1230, 4000' ASL. Rested for fifteen minutes while carriers regrouped. NOTE: Up to this time the patrol had been following the route taken by Mr. Wilson on Oks P patrol No 6 of 6/4/65 but now the EMIAPMIN guides stated that they were not living at the top of the PAOU River now, and that they had moved farther down, and that they would show the patrol a shorter route to the camp. 1245 Broke away from previous patrols route and following a bush path descended rapidly to PAOU River arriving 1330, 2600' ASL. Crossed river and regrouped carriers and at 1345 started climbing again. Reached new EMIAPMIN house 1440, 4060' ASL. Camp set up near house - no choice on sight as only flat ground available. Patrol greeted by about 12 EMIAPMINS. Small amount of native foods purchased. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 11th July 1965.

Today learned that remainder of group scattered over a wide area, mainly tending to their gardens. People state that some may have

Sunday Continued.

moved back to old camp site at the head of the PAOU River. Will send Interpreter WUNIOT to check tomorrow. Remained overnight.

Monday, 12th July 1965.

Remained at EMIAPMIN camp site. Interpreter WUNIOT together with policeman and guides off to check on old camp site. Good relations established with part of EMIAPMIN group. Hope to take two of the males back to station to see how the rest of the world functions. Had intended to remain here tomorrow as well but weather does not look at all promising. Rain most of day but so far only light. However, if it keeps up will have to move off as do not wish to be caught by Om River flooding. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 13th July 1965.

Morning waited for Interpreter and guides to return. Started to pack up camp as wish to move off at noon. WUNIOT back at 1100 together with eight more EMIAPMINS, 4 males and four females. He stated that he sighted three more but they had disappeared into thick bush. Spoke with group again and more information obtained on whereabouts of uncontacted WUNAGABEN. Hospital orderly completed small pox vaccinations. Invitations put forward to two EMIAPMIN males to accompany patrol back to station - accepted readily. Patrol moved off 1200 after hearty good-byes to EMIAPMIN group, headman stating that he would give the three runaway people a good talking to for evading the patrol. Descended to PAOU River 1245, crossed and then started climbing back up steep ridge arriving crest 1345. Rest of fifteen minutes for carriers to regroup. 1400. Moved off again descending to MURU Creek 1430 and arrived NENE R. 1445. Followed upstream for fifteen minutes and then made camp. Heavy rain throughout night.

Wednesday, 14th July 1965.

Departed NENE River camp site 0705, followed river upstream for five minutes, crossed over and commenced climbing, arriving crest of ridge 0830. Rested and continued on 0840, descending to KEINU Creek where arrived 0940. Followed downstream for thirty minutes until arrived camp site of 9/7/65. Part carrier line awaiting and remainder of patrol cargo packed up. Departed downstream 1100, still following KEINU Creek and at junction of KEINU Creek and KURU Rivers 1140. Followed KURU River down, crossing and recrossing arriving at OM River 1330. No trouble following KURU River as water fairly low. Forging place of previous patrol downstream but as a slight rise in river ~~xxxxxx~~ decided to following OM upstream and find a suitable ford. Followed river for thirty minutes where a suitable crossing place found. Cargo and carriers across river by 1445 and camp set up on bank of river 1600' ASL. House seen on ridge overlooking OM River, and believe it belongs to REMEAN group. Smoke rising from gardens. Intend to visit tomorrow. TERANMIN male who has knowledge of group sent to inform of patrols arrival. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 15th July 1965.

Departed camp site 0800, following OM River upstream, patrol led by two males from camp site on ridge who had arrived that morning. 0815 turned off from OM into thick bush, progress slow due to dense ~~xxxx~~ barriers of bamboo and little or no track. Climbed slowly up ridge and reached large cleared area with fortress type house 1015. Again progress up ridge very slow as track poor. Camp set up near large house 3150' ASL. Spoke with inhabitants, 14 in all and may be more, believe so but group deny. People state they are SISIMINS (HEWA) and call themselves YOLIAPE, and moved down to this site from the LAGIAP River some time ago. One HEMHAN male seen, stated that rest of his group, 2 males, 1 female and child down on the OM River processing sago. Questions put to group as to whereabouts of the Duban group, people state that they have all moved up the LAGIAP River, and joined with the SISIMIN (HEWA) group. Pig and native foods purchased. Remained overnight.

Friday, 16th July 1965.

Remained at camp site of YOLIAPE (SISIMIN) group. Spoke with people regarding movement of DUBAN group and the whereabouts of the SISIMIN (HEWA) people. This group of YOLIAPE appear quite friendly with the ENIAPHIN and conversed quite freely with the two ENIAPHIN males accompanying the patrol. On hearing that the two ENIAPHIN males were going to the station two YOLIAPE men asked if they too could accompany. Self agreed that they could if they so wished. Small amount of native foods again purchased.

Remained overnight.

Saturday, 17th July 1965.

Departed YOLIAPE camp site 0615, descended to junction of YEGELI and WAL creeks 0700, 2600' ASL. Followed YEGELI Creek upstream for five minutes and then climbed away from creek. Passed small YOLIAPE garden 0715 and from then on track ceased to exist. Cut track up to top of first crest 0820, 3720' ASL. Rested ten minutes and then descended to BAK ~~River~~ Creek 0900 3000' ASL. Followed this upriver until junction of BAK and KURUM Creeks 0945, then left BAK Creek and started following KURUM Ck. Broke away from creek 1000 3300' ASL and started ascending, rested 1125, 5200' ASL. Climbed again and reached crest of ridge 1215, 6100' ASL. Rested and then descended to station arriving 1330.

Patrol stood down.

END OF DIARY

(a)

INTRODUCTION.

The area patrolled is known as the OM River Census Division and this division covers an area of approximately some seven hundred square miles. The division lies generally to the North of Oksapmin station and is bounded by two sub districts, that of Lake Kopiago to the East and that of Ambunti to the North. In this large census division only a little over half has been patrolled, those areas nearest to the Ambunti border still remaining untouched. Because of the extremely rough terrain and lack of people the reason is obvious. However, information gathered on this patrol tends to point out that there is more population than previously thought, and it is hoped that a patrol may visit the remainder of this division sometime in the near future. *October*

As like the remainder of the Oksapmin area, terrain in the area patrolled consists of large and long mountain ranges, which while not over large nevertheless take both time and effort to master. What little flat land there is usually lies ~~sxxx~~ along the banks of the many creeks and rivers which run between and split each of these many ranges. Vegetation for the most part consists mainly of bush forest and secondary growth, with the odd patch of kunai grass along the slopes of the OM River.

As stated the area is drained by a number of creeks and rivers, and of the latter the KUTIK, OGON, FU, KURU, NENE and PACU were seen and crossed. All of these rivers drain south at one stage or other into the OM, the NENE and PACU both link up and join the LAGUP River which in turn flows down into the OM River, and it is at this junction that the Strickland River begins.

All of the above rivers are subject to flash flooding in time of heavy rains and crossing is difficult. However, the patrol was carried out in a time of very little rain and no difficulties were encountered.

At the time of the patrol it was known that there were seven groups in this division (the group of BETIANA is not counted in this as they have all moved back to the North Tekin Valley) and with the exception of the DURAN group all or at least part of each group were seen. A new group known as YOLIAPE ~~xxxx~~ ^{was} also found and information gathered as to whereabouts of new groups further north, from both DURANMIN and EMIAPMIN.

The objects of the patrol were to further Administration influence in the area and to undertake routine Administration.

The last patrol to the area was conducted by Mr. N. Wilson Patrol Officer in March/ April of this year. (See Oksapmin P/R No 6 of 1964/65). So far patrolling in this area has been confined strictly to staff of this department.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Taking into account the amount of patrolling done in this still comparatively new area, the native affairs position as in other parts of the Oksapmin area can be classed as satisfactory. The inhabitants of the area accorded the patrol quite a good reception

NATIVE AFFAIRS CON'TD.

and all appeared pleased to have the patrol visit them. As for the rest of the Oksapmin area co-operation is necessary for the people to be administered both properly and fully. If the people do not wish to co-operate the Administrations task will be made much more difficult, and if they wish to hide from the patrols both a considerable amount of time and money will be wasted chasing them up. Luckily very little chasing had to be done by this patrol as they people had been given plenty of time to prepare for the patrol. Word having been sent per medium of Interpreter WUNTOT who is from the area, his father being a DURANMIN and mother a WONDUANMIN. He is quite a handyman for this area as can speak ~~well~~ to all of the seven groups, and the SISIMIN as well; as he also speaks pidgin English is quite a gifted linguist.

SUANMIN.

This group all reside together in the one large house which is situated on the ridge between the OM and FU Rivers. Since the last patrol they have apparently abandoned the house on the ridge above the MURU Creek and they state that they have no intention of returning to it. They also have a house some fifteen minutes upstream from the rest house, and although quite new they stated that it is only used periodically as a member of the house died, and as is the custom of this area when this happens the house is quickly vacated and a new one built.

Although no census was taken on this patrol a quick headcount showed an increase of four on the last officers figures. Population of this group now stands at thirty two, the four migrations all coming from DURANMIN and the people in question stated that in future they will reside permanently at SUANMIN.

This was the writers first glimpse of the Om River people and it was quickly noticeable that the builds of the men of this area, ^{compared} with that of the remainder of the Oksapmin area are vastly different. Unlike the Oksapmins who are short, puny looking men the SUANMINS are well built, stocky, above average in height and have muscles in the arms and legs like great gorillas. No doubt tramping over the mountain ranges day after day brings about such fine body proportions.

The group was extremely friendly towards the patrol and did all they could to help. A new rest ^{house} had been built prior to the patrols arrival and a large area cleared for the carriers. The bridge across the OM River had been strengthened with new cane and the track up from the OM to the rest house had been well cleared., this may have been at the instigation of Int. WUNTOT, but none the less due credit was given to the SUANMIN people. Although short of sweet potato (apologies for this were given) they managed to find a plentiful supply of tapioca, and some European vegetables (obtained through Telefomin trade routes) and this was more than enough for the patrol needs during its two day stay in the area.

DURANMIN.

In previous patrol reports the name of this group had been written down as DUANMIN and DUANMIN, however the writer had heard Interpreter MANGITIPHOX who is from this village call it by the name of DURANMIN. On reaching the village questions were asked as to the correct name, and each and every person questioned called the village DURANMIN. It is proposed therefore, that in the future this village be known as DURANMIN.

The population of this group is the largest in this Census Division, total at last census being 79. This of course is not taking into account the four migrations to SUANMIN, however, allowing for natural increases it is felt that at the next census the population will be somewhat the same.

Con'td.

NATIVE AFFAIRS CON'TD.

The hamlet of DURANMIN consists of two houses, both situated on the top of a ridge above the KEINU River. They are both of the fortress type style seen in other parts of this division, and are built at least twenty feet above the ground.

Again good reception was given the patrol and ample quantities of native foods were purchased. So much in fact that a two day supply was carried on to the next camp thereby given a two day extension to the patrol if food did happen to come short. Like the SUAMINS ample time had been given to the group to prepare for the patrol, and this time had been put to good use. The rest house was in excellent shape and the police house much the same; parts of the road linking SUAMIN and DURANMIN and DURANMIN and KIAPMIN had been cleared and good walking was encountered. Like the SUAMIN men the build of the men of this village is much the same, great stocky thighs which propel them along the ground at a seemingly effortless lope.

KIAPMIN.

This group is situated on ~~thex~~ on a small hill overlooking the KARU River, the hamlet consisting of one large house built at least twenty five feet above the ground.

The group previously resided along the DALI River, quite a ~~xxxxx~~ decent walk away and it is felt that the move down to the KARU River is all for the good - at least from the patrolling officers viewpoint anyway. The people appear contented enough in their new spot, and although they still visit their gardens on the DALI River from time to time, they stated that as soon as they were all finished they would abandon the area entirely. As some of ~~xxxxx~~ their new gardens on the KARU are just starting to bear and with more coming on, it seems feasible to assume that they will do, so, as it means a long walk also for them.

In all there are members of three groups at this hamlet, these being all of the KIAPMIN, five DURANMIN and six MONDUAMINS. Quite a mixture but they all live peaceably together. The DURANMIN group which consists of two males, 1 female and two children have been residing in this spot for some time and it is felt that they will continue to do so. The MONDUAMINS, however, fluctuate between here and their camp on the KEINU River, and it is anyone's guess as to where they will eventually settle. By the time of the next patrol they may have made up their minds.

MONDUAMIN.

Six of this group were seen and all at the KIAPMIN camp site as mentioned above. It appears as if the group is split into three groups, one which is situated on the KEINU Creek, one small group near KUTIK and the other the group which fluctuates between KIAPMIN and the camp on the KEINU River.

If the patrol had learnt of the MONDUAMIN group in the KUTIK area a search would have been undertaken for them, however the KUTIK people stated that a death had occurred in the group and that they had all moved back to the KEINU River. It was not until the patrol was at KIAPMIN that this was found to be false. However as the group consists only of one small family, for this time they can afford to be overlooked.

Whilst at KIAPMIN the writer sent a party out to try and ^{locate} ~~find~~ the KEINU River MONDUAMINS, and if successful it was intended that a visit be made to them. However, the party returned with the story that although

NATIVE AFFAIRS CONT'D.

they found the hamlet which consists of one house, it had been vacated some time ago, and that the present whereabouts of the group were unknown. Again it appears as if this elusive group is only small, the MONDUAMINS seen at KIAPMIN stating that there were two males, one female and two children. Their reason for hiding from the patrol is not known, there is no doubt that they knew of its coming as Int. WUNIOT had himself spoken to one of the males from the KEINU River camp.

It is felt that the patrol cast a good impression on the six MONDUAMINS seen, and it is hoped that they will convey to the missing group that the Administration means them no harm. For the next patrol Interpreter WUNIOT will go to the KEINU River site, make contact with both these people, and it is hoped the family in the KUTIK area, and remain with them until the patrols arrival. As ~~WUNIOT~~ WUNIOT's mother is a MONDUAMIN this seems to be the best solution.

EMIAPMIN.

Two thirds of this group were seen, the remainder which number ten apparently knew of the patrols coming but were not inclined to meet it. However, as the majority were seen the writer was more than satisfied.

This group has vacated its old house at the head of the PAOU River and have moved further down on to a ridge overlooking same. The hamlet consists of one large house which has only recently been built, and several small houses which are scattered around the various gardens, and which are used only when working these gardens in question. The large house next to which the patrol set up camp is of the usual fortress type seen elsewhere in this division. Walls were of thick ~~timber~~ timber with slits to fire arrows through if attacked.

Less than half of the group greeted the patrol but after sending Int. WUNIOT to the house at the head of the PAOU R. he returned with eight people, all who had been tending gardens in that area. He stated that he sighted three more but on his asking them to come and greet the patrol they disappeared into thick bush.

The patrol spent three days at the EMIAPMIN camp site and good reception was given it. The people were very friendly and although short of food gave as much as they could spare. The headman co-operated in every way and stated that when he sighted the three people who had run away he would give them a good talking to for evading the patrol.

During discussions with this group it came up that they were considering moving down to the KEINU Creek and setting up a permanent campsite. They have sago stands in this area and as it would save a long and hard days walk the idea is a good one. It is hoped that eventually they will move to this new site.

During the patrols stay an invitation was put forward to two of the young men to visit OKSAFMIN station, and see how other people work and live. This was accepted after much discussion and the two males accompanied the patrol back. They are now working on the station and appear pleased with their new environment.

It was asked this group whether they sighted the last patrol (No 6 of 64/65) and if so why did they not greet it. They stated that they had sighted it from a distance, but as they did not know what it was in the area ~~for~~ they were not inclined to go down at meet it.

*Note to the
Commander's
(See page 1)*

NATIVE AFFAIRS CON'TD.

YOLIAPE

This is a new group contacted for the first time and consists of 14 people seen. Of the people seen 9 were Adult males, 1 Adult Female, 2 male children and two female children, the latter two both married to males in their late twenties or early thirties. As stated 14 people were seen, however, believe there are more as only one female adult seen, although people deny.

They apparently are part of the SISIMIN (HEWA) group and moved ~~to~~ this site from the LAGAIP River area some time ago. Their dress is different from the rest of the division inasmuch that in place of the penis gourd, from the waist hangs a clump of grass, the same also covers the buttocks. The rest of the dress is much the same, ~~the~~ half tied up in an elongated bun and covered with a net, pig tusks both through the nose and around the neck, and cane hoops around the waist.

Like the rest of this division they are quite large in stature and muscles in arms and legs are plentiful. Again this ~~group~~ no doubt comes from clambering over the many hills and mountains in search of food.

They state they they now have no enemies at all, possibly this is so although it was noted that their house was built in the fortress style similar to other parts of the division. Interpreter WUNTOT stated that although all fighting had ceased in this area, originally the SUAMIN, DURANKIN, MONDUAHIN and ELIPTAMEN were all enemies of the YOLIAPE (SISIMIN) people.

They appear to be on quite friendly terms with the EMIAPMIN and greeting the two EMIAPMIN males accompanying the patrol like long lost friends. When it was known that the two EMIAPMIN men were going to the station for a look around, two YOLIAPE asked if they could accompany as well. This was pleasing to hear and they were told that they could. With the two EMIAPMIN males they are now working on the station, and as with former seem happy to be here. After the initial shyness on greeting the patrol wore off the patrol was accorded a warm welcome ~~by the YOLIAPE group~~ by the YOLIAPE group.

The YOLIAPE group reside in the one large fortress type house, and as it is only new they should remain in the area for some length of time. This house was by far the largest seen on the patrol and as built at least thirty feet off the ground. It is about forty feet long and at least twenty feet high, quite enormous really considering the supposed population of the group.

REMBAN.

One of the REMBAN group was seen at YOLIAPE where he ~~was seen~~ allegedly now resides. He stated that the remainder of his group, 2 males, 1 female and a child were all down on the OM River processing sago, having moved down there some days prior to the arrival of the patrol. This REMBAN hamlet apparently consists of one house and is situated some few hours walk from YOLIAPE further up the OM River. As the house was uninhabited there was no reason for visiting it. The REMBAN male was asked that on receiving word of any future patrols, he assemble his group at this house and that the patrol would pay them a visit.

DUBAN.

None of this group were seen. The YOLIAPE stating that they had all moved up the LAGAIP River and were now living with the SISIMIN (HEWA)

Con'td.

NATIVE AFFAIRS CONT'D.

group. This DUBAN group appear very hard to find and although this tale may have been a fabrication by the YOLIAPE, it is believed that they were telling the truth. It is hoped to conduct a patrol through part of the SISIMIN (HEWA) in October, and it is expected that contact will then be made with the elusive DUBAN.

UNCONTACTED GROUPS WUNAGABEN AND AKIAKMIN.

Whilst at DURANMIN the patrol ~~xxxxxxf~~ learnt of two groups known to them as AKIAKMIN and WUNAGABEN. From this office it was not known that any such groups existed although it was assumed that there must be population further north towards Ambunti. The DURANMIN were very vague about both of these groups but with persistent enquiry some information was gathered.

It appears as if the AKIAKMIN group lie somewhere between North and North East from DURANMIN and about eight to ten days walk away. They state that there is a route from DURANMIN but that the track is poor and the going tough. Of the latter I have no doubt seeing all the mountain ranges rising upwards to the sky. Some of the DURANMIN, the headman for one have visited the AKIAKMIN and they state that the population of the group is somewhat the same as their own (79). They wear the same kind of dress, and their houses which are situated on the tops of ridges are much the same as their own. They are apparently quite poor and the only axes they possess were given to them by the DURANMIN people.

The tultul of KIAPMIN also has knowledge of both the AKIAKMIN and the WUNAGABEN having visited them both. It is felt that KIAPMIN may have some ties with this new group as the name is much the same, and when they resided at their camp on the DALI River they would have been reasonably close to the uncontacted AKIAKMIN.

WUNAGABEN is apparently some two days walk from EMIAPMIN, Int. WUNIOT believes it may even be less than that. Again the EMIAPMIN were quite vague about this new group, and it is certain that they know a lot more than they told. Int. WUNIOT pointed out a young female who was from WUNAGABEN, and also some arrows which he stated were from there.

WUNIOT said that the WUNAGABEN speak a dialect of their own and he does not know it. However, the EMIAPMIN and the tultul of KIAPMIN can speak it so it must have some linguistic ties with both the EMIAPMIN and KIAPMIN languages.

From information gathered it would appear as if the population of WUNAGABEN is also considerable, and an estimate is placed at about sixty people. The EMIAPMIN state that there are six houses in which the WUNAGABEN reside and all are situated on a ridge overlooking a river, which apparently drains into the river TSAI (LAGIAP). The position of this new group from EMIAPMIN is directly North.

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is of a subsistence nature, main crops grown being sweet potato and taro. These crops are supplemented with sugar cane, bananas and tapioca and in the villages of SUANIN and DURANMIN some European vegetables namely cucumbers, pumpkins and some papaws were purchased by the patrol. Seeds for the European vegetables are

(10)

AGRICULTURE CON'TD.

obtained from the Telefomin area through the ELIPTAMEN trade routes.

It is a shifting type of Agriculture in the area as in other parts of ~~the~~ Oksapmin, the people living from garden to garden, new ones cleared and planted when the old ones are near to finished. Some of the gardens are situated quite some distance from the hamlets themselves, and when these are being worked the people move to houses near them and reside until the food in the garden is consumed.

Soil in the area appears to be quite good and the quality of the food purchased was good. It is hoped to introduce other European vegetables such as cabbage, tomato and onion sometime in the near future, and with the soil and the climate quite good there is no reason why such vegetables would not grow. If these vegetables do prove suitable it will further supplement the two main food crops of sweet potato and taro.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Each village or hamlet seen consisted of no more than two houses, and in most cases only the one. However, the one is quite sufficient as most of the groups number no more than forty and the houses are usually enormous and more than adequate. Each house seen at every hamlet was of the fortress type with stout timber walls and built well above the ground. ~~These~~ sites for these houses ~~was~~^{were} in all cases well chosen, all situated on the top of small or high ridges with a commanding view of the surrounding countryside.

The house seen at the new hamlet of YOLIAPE was by far the largest sighted on the patrol. As stated it was built at least thirty feet off the ground, and was all of forty feet long and twenty feet wide. It is built on ~~the~~^{top} of a ridge overlooking the OM River, and from the window one obtains a magnificent view of the OM River valley and the countryside towards EMIAPMIN. It is so well situated that the EMIAPMIN gardens can be seen in the far distance. It is built on the tops of three trees, all the branches being cut off and just the trunks remaining and is strengthened with a number of long and thin saplings driven into the ground. At first glance the structure appears quite flimsy, however it is extremely strong and I have no doubt it would survive very strong winds.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

All village officials seen appear quite keen and are doing their job to the best of their abilities, and every encouragement was given to them.

The village officials from both DURANMIN and KIAPMIN have worked on the station for a month, having accompanied the previous patrol back to the station and it is felt that they will derive benefit from this visit.

HEALTH.

Health in the area is generally quite good, a native medical orderly accompanied the patrol and attended to any minor ailments at each of the villages or hamlets visited. Several cases of SIPOMA or "Grill" were seen and this apparently extends throughout the whole division, as at least one case was seen at each hamlet visited.

One case of yaws and a bad case of elephantitis of the testicles were seen at the new hamlet of YOLIAPE. Treatment was given to the yaws case which was a young child, however it is felt that little can be done for the latter case of elephantitis.

The medical orderly accompanying administered small pox vaccinations throughout the entire patrol.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, COMMUNICATIONS.

As in other parts of the Okanagin area travel is essentially by foot, and always will remain so. Tracks and paths used by the patrol were all in good shape, and except for the paths leading up to YOLIAPE and to the station where a track had to be cut, no difficulty was encountered in ~~transferring~~ ^{crossing} them.

Thanks to Mr. JULET informing the people of the patrol, coming some of the tracks had been maintained, the grass had been cut and the paths widened with the result that some of them were quite good to walk upon. With little or no rain throughout the patrol (only one night of heavy rain) all tracks were quite dry and good travel was made.

No difficulties were encountered in crossing or following any of the many creeks or rivers for as stated little rain fell during the duration of the patrol, and consequently all were at an extremely low level.

The bridge across the OM River just up from the mouth of the FU River was in quite good condition and a crossing with no incidents was made. New cane had been added to the old and the bridge had been properly strengthened by the SUAMIN people prior to the arrival of the patrol.

FUTURE ADMINISTRATION.

The next patrol will start off by attempting to find all of the MONGUAMIN group, meet up with the remainder of the BEMEAN and check as to whether the DUBAN have returned to their old site or not. It is intended also to follow the LAGIAP River upstream and check on the exact whereabouts of part of the SIGIMIN (BEMA) group; from there it will go via SHIAPMIN to the area further North and try and make contact with the new groups of SHIAGAZEN and AKIARMIN, and any other groups in this area. As the area is extremely rough and population small the patrol will be of some considerable length, and it is felt that airdrops will be needed.

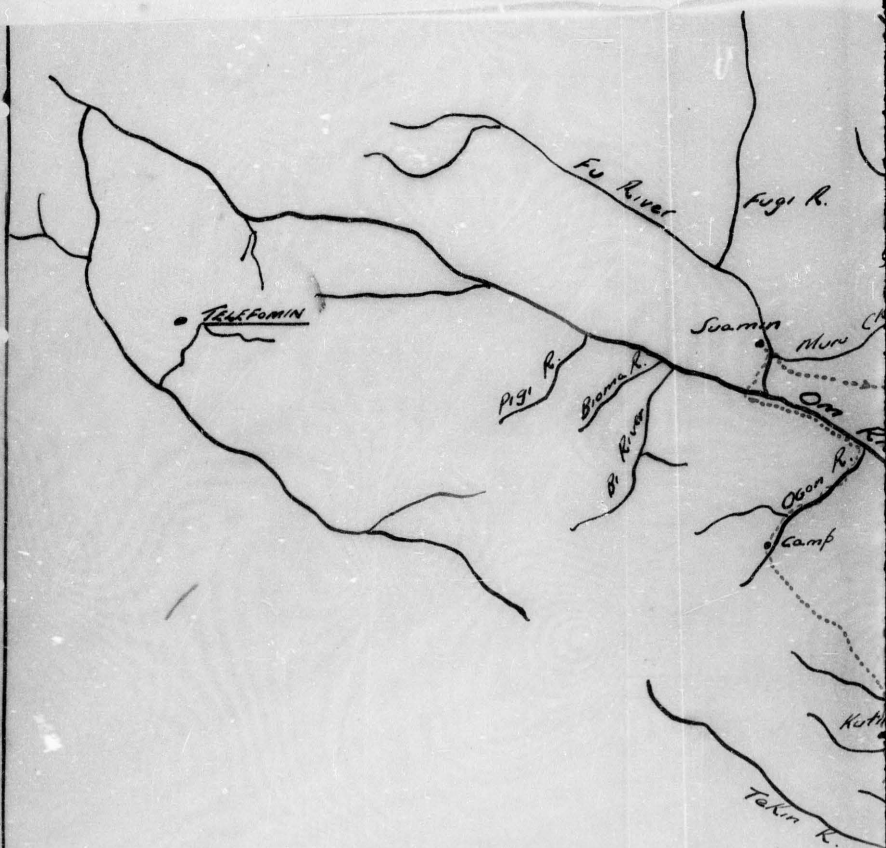
CONCLUSION.

A patrol whose objects were to consolidate Administration influence in the area and to undertake all aspects of routine Administration. As stated all of the seven groups or at least part of each, with the exception of the DUBAN group were contacted and good relations exist. Although the DUBAN people were not seen, information as to their whereabouts was obtained and ~~was~~ a new group known as YOLIAPE ~~xxxxx~~ was contacted, and knowledge of two previously unknown groups obtained the patrol could be considered a success.

An interesting and enjoyable patrol.

W. Heathcote
.....
W. HEATHCOTE
Patrol Officer.

Doc.
A very interesting report which Mr. Heathcote is to be complimented for conducting in a very obvious, consistent manner a thorough and well-organized patrol on the related people. *Aug.*

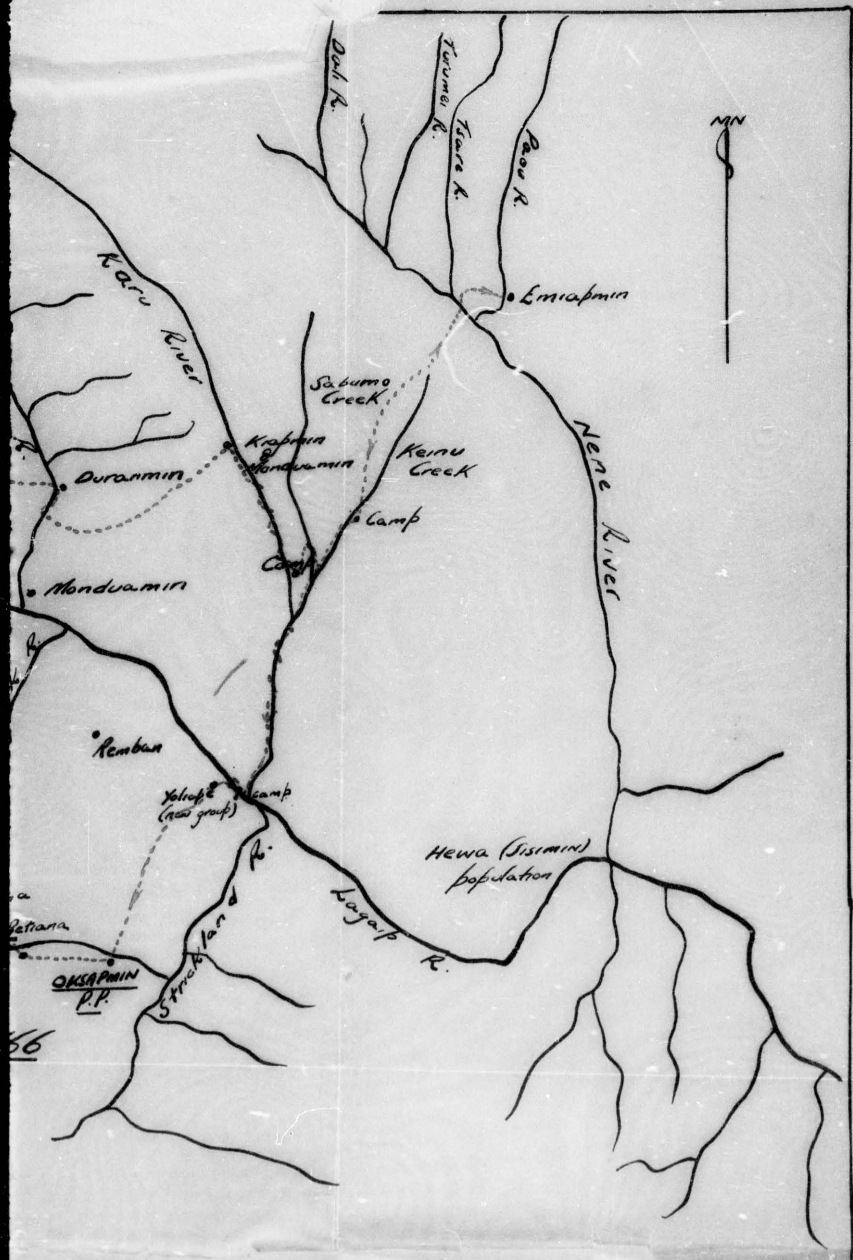


Om River Area

MAP TO ACCOMPANY OKSAPMIN P/R No. 1 of

Scale 4 mls = 1"

Patrol Route -----





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....SEPIK/ OKSAPMIN.....Report No.....2 of 1965/66
Patrol Conducted by.....W.HEATHCOTE P.O.
Area Patrolled.....GAWENG, RUGUP, BAK VALLEYS - LAKE KOPIAGO.
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....NO
1 NCO, 3 CONST POLICE,
Natives.....1 H.O., 3 INTERPRETERS.
Duration—From.....11/.....9./1965.....to.....1./10./1965.
Number of Days.....21
Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....NO
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../.....6./1965
Medical/.....2/1965
Map Reference.....Map Attached.
Objects of Patrol.....Routine Administration, visit by Oksapmin/ people to Lake Kopiago.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....

Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

67-8-21

13th December, 1965.

District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

OKSAPMIN PATROL REPORT NO. 2/1965-66:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a Patrol Report by Mr. Heathcote, covered by your memorandum 67-3-18/994 of 3rd November, 1965.

2. Your comments and those of Mr. Wearne have been noted.
3. Mr. Heathcote has done a good patrol and submitted a very informative report.
4. The visit of the Oksapmin people to Lake Kopiago under Mr. Heathcote's guidance seemed a success.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.



67-2-21 ✓ (B)

67-3-18/994

Department of District Administration,
Sepik District,
NEWGU.

3rd November, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
TELEKOMIN.

OKBAPMIN PATROL No. 2 of 1965/66.

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of the report of the above numbered patrol, conducted by Mr. W. Heathcote, Patrol Officer, into the GAWANG, RUGUP, BAK Valleys and a visit to Lake Kopiago Patrol Post.

Your comments are noted and adequately cover a good and well written report.

E. J. Hicks
E. J. HICKS, *for*
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KOROROBU.

la
RAT

67-1

SubDistrict Office,
TELEFOMIN

29th October, 1965.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District,

WEWAK

OKSAPMIN PATROL NO.2 - 1965/66

Please find attached two copies of the report of the abovementioned patrol conducted by Mr. W. Heathcote, Patrol Officer, to the Gaweng, Rugup and Bak Valleys and to Lake Kopiago.

Claims for Camping Allowance are not attached.

NATIVE AF AIRS

The visit to Lake Kopiago seems to have been most successful. I commend Mr. Heathcote's action in selecting people from all three areas for the visit. It is unfortunate that the track to Telefomin is so difficult - up to 10,500 feet at one point. In spite of this difficulty, people from the upper North Tekin occasionally walk through to Telefomin seeking casual employment.

The incidence of traditional trading relations between the three groups described by Mr. Heathcote will be an interesting field for future investigation.

Bakfondit of the Gaweng Valley has been similarly described by previous officers. I will endeavour to arrange for a visit to Wewak by Bakfondit, Kero of Tekin Valley and some Om River leaders in the near future.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Mr. Heathcote's organisation of the replacement of the Strickland Bridge is to be commended.

A well-written report.

J M Wearne
(J.M. Wearne)
Assistant District Commissioner.

Encl.

PATROL REPORT OKSAPMIN NO 2 of 1965/66.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY:

W. HEATHCOTE PATROL OFFICER.

ACCOMPANIED BY:

1 NCO, 3 CONST POLICE,
1 H.O., 3 INTERPRETERS, CARRIERS.

AREA PATROLLED:

GAWENG, RUGUP, BAK VALLEYS - LAKE KOPIAGO.

DURATION OF PATROL:

11/9/65 to 1/10/65

NUMBER OF DAYS:

TWENTY ONE.

OBJECTS OF PATROL:

ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION, VISIT BY
OKSAPMIN PEOPLE TO LAKE KOPIAGO.

MAP REFERENCE:

SKETCH MAP ATTACHED

PATROL DIARY.

Saturday, 11th September 1965.

Early morning prepared for patrol and carriers assembled. Departed station 1000 with sixty carriers, 4 police, hospital orderly and three interpreters. At foot of dividing range 1030 and reached crest at 1140. Rested and then descended to GAGUTIAN arriving 1205. Camp set up ~~and~~ new rest house. Some of the GAGUTIAN and GATUGAN group present and discussions with them over local topics and decimal currency. Native foods and a pig purchased. Remained overnight.

SUNDAY, 12th September 1965.

Remained GAGUTIAN. Rather a dull day with drizzle and heavy winds. Informal discussions with village leaders.

Monday, 13th September 1965.

Departed GAGUTIAN 0800, at crest of ridge overlooking Strickland Gorge 0910. Rested for twenty minutes to allow carriers to regroup. Moved off again 0930, descending rapidly and at foot of range 1015. At 1020 reached road junction of roads leading to DUBAN and Strickland River and following the latter road ~~down~~ leading down to river, reached the Strickland at 1135 after descending down hot humal covered slopes. Followed river downstream for thirty minutes arriving at camp site 1205. Camp set up. Some DUBAN males into camp in afternoon and one offered to guide patrol party on new and supposedly shorter route to Lake Kopiago. This offer accepted and the male remained in camp whilst his counterparts, after being given notice of patrol's intention to visit them on return from Kopiago, returned to their hamlet. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 14th September 1965.

Departed camp site 0645 and at 0650 arrived cane suspension bridge across Strickland River. Crossing effected and cargo and carriers across by 0815. Moving away from the river commenced climbing of humal covered slopes, at 0940 ~~halt~~ entered small forest on top of ridge and at 0945 rested for 15 minutes to allow carriers to regroup. Resting place had been used by other persons prior to arrival of patrol as fires still smouldering and sleeping places in evidence. Continued on again 1000 and after ten minutes walking came across five males who stated they were from the village of YOKWANA in the Kopiago area and that they were the ones who had used the resting place the night before. After speaking to the men, moved off again, the YOKWANA Males acting as guides, track for the most part through forest and over small hills. Climbed steadily and reached crest at 1200 thence descended to YOKWANA Village arriving 1250. Camp set up. Spoke with APO and village leaders. Good amount of Native Foods purchased. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 15th September 1965.

Departed camp 0700, walking through thick bush. Gradually climbed away from village and rested at 0930. Carriers regrouped and off again 1000 climbing and descending and reached KAGWANA rest house 1330. Camp set up. No sign of people. Late afternoon a few women into camp with a small amount of sweet potato for sale. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 16th September 1965.

Departed KAGWANA 0700, descended rapidly and reached river 0845, thence to rest house 0900. Owing to lack of guides from this point wrong turning taken, however, arrived Lake Kopiago at 1100. Spoke with ADC and Patrol Officer. Carriers set up camp in station compound. Carriers told to rest in afternoon and if desired watch the number of planes coming and going. Sick ones to hospital.

Friday, 17th September 1965.

Spoke with DDA officers over general Administration matters. Carriers shown around station, given tractor rides and given closeup views of the many planes taking off and landing.

Saturday, 18th September 1965.

Carriers shown around lake and remainder of the station. Inspected school buildings and compound, together with hospital and European residences. A sing sing had been arranged by ADC with the DUNA locals taking part. Afternoon saw this get underway, the OCSAPHIN carriers also taking part.

Sunday, 19th September 1965.

At Lake Kopiago. Carriers split up into small parties and those that desired taken on short tours by station police.

Monday, 20th September 1965.

Departed Lake Kopiago 0900, this time following proper outward road. Reached rest house 1020 and rested 15 minutes for carriers to regroup. Off again 1035 following a different path to the one taken heading for Kopiago. Crossed same suspension bridge 1200, again waited for carriers to regroup, did so by 1220 and continued on until 1300 when camp set up. Some local people of the area brought a small amount of native food into camp in the late afternoon. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 21st September 1965.

Departed camp site 0815, walking along side of ridge, rested 0915 for 15 minutes to allow carriers to regroup. Arrived WAKUNA 1115. Camp set up. Some native foods purchased from local people. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 22nd September 1965.

Departed WAKUNA camp site 0730, descending through kunai grass and rain forest. Reached TUMBUON River 0945 and crossing effected. Rested and carriers regrouped. Departed 1040 cutting across kunai grass slopes to Strickland River where arrived 1200. Cargo and carriers across river by 1300 and thence five minutes climb to camp site. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 23rd September 1965.

Departed ~~xxx~~ camp site 0615, following along banks of Strickland River upstream and then on up kunai grass slopes. Departed from kunai 0745, entering thick forest and reached junction of roads * leading to DUBAN 0815. Sgt. off with main patrol party to DUBAN, self continuing on up steep mountain arriving crest 0915. Rested and waited for the few carriers accompanying to regroup. On again 0945 and arrived GAGUTIAN 1100. Camp set up. Spoke to village people again about work on roads, and purchased small amount of native foods. Remained overnight.

Friday, 24th September 1965.

Departed GAGUTIAN 0900, at top of ridge overlooking station 0945, descended and arrived station 1030. Patrol stood down temporarily ~~xxx~~ to await arrival Director DDA who is supposed to arrive the next day. Office duties in the afternoon.

Saturday, 25th September 1965.

Waited arrival of Director. Plane heard circling 1000 but because of low cloud unable to land. Departed station 1400 and arrived back at GAGUTIAN 1600. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 26th September 1965.

Departed GAGUTIAN 0800, at top of ridge overlooking Strickland 0915, rested and thence commenced descent arriving DUBAN 1040. Patrol party waiting and camp all set up. Only part of the DUBAN group present and spoke with them. Remained overnight.

Monday, 27th September 1965.

Departed DUBAN 0800, passed two deserted houses 0915 and rested for ten minutes to allow carriers to regroup. Off again 0925 and arrived KUSANBAK 1125. People awaiting patrol. Camp set up and in afternoon spoke with people over local matters and decimal currency. Native foods and a pig purchased. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 28th September 1965.

Departed KUSANBAK 0800, reached foot of mountain 0945 and at crest of ridge 1045. Rested and carriers regrouped. Con'td on again 1100 arriving KUSDOSAN (formerly KUSANA) 1305. Camp set up. It was intended to visit KUNANA the next day, however, as the majority of this group were awaiting the patrol at KUSDOSAN, the patrol decided against making the trip. The KUNANA group were informed that there was no need for them to walk to KUSDOSAN and that the next patrol to the area would visit their own camp site. Talks with both groups on local matters and a short talk given on the introduction of decimal currency. Native foods and a pig purchased.

Wednesday, 29th September 1965.

Departed KUSDOSAN 0830 and arrived DABURA 1130. Camp set up at the rest house. P.M. spoke to the people of DABURA, BAKANA and YENTANA over various matters. Quite a good turn up and in excess of previous patrol in June. Native foods purchased.

Thursday, 30th September 1965.

Departed DABURA 0740, continuing on up BAK Valley. Arrived KWEPTANA 0850 and short talks with village people. On again 0915, passing DIVANA 1030 and arriving TOMIANA 1115. Rested and continued on again 1130; through ARANAMIN 1210 and arrived KUSANA 1240. Camp set up. P.M. to Baptist mission for talks with mission personnel. Remained overnight KUSANA.

Friday, 1st October 1965.

Departed KUSANA 0800 and arrived station 0940. Patrol stood down.

INTRODUCTION.

As ~~stated~~ ^{stated} on the coverpiece of this report the patrol visited the GAWENG, RUGUP and BAK Valleys in the Oksapmin area, and at the same time made a visit to the Government station of Lake Kopiago in the Western Highlands District. The patrol also passed through the ~~TEEN~~ ^{TEEN} valley on the way back to Oksapmin, however, as visiting this valley was not on the patrol programme, and only a day spent passing through no further mention will be made of it. This valley will be covered by a patrol from Oksapmin in December of this year.

The GAWENG, RUGUP and BAK Valleys are all situated generally to the south of Oksapmin and, as in other valleys in this area are divided from one another by long and high mountain ranges which for the most part run in a general east - west direction. Terrain in the area consists of the above ranges, whilst on the floor of the valleys small undulating hills join with the small amount of flat land to form a base for the ranges to rise from. Vegetation consists mainly of kunai grass and forest on the ranges while small patches of kunai, swamp forest and secondary growth provide cover throughout the valleys. Large and extremely hot patches of kunai grass intermingle with sharp limestone to provide cover for the steep slopes leading down and away from the Strickland River.

In the Oksapmin area of the valleys visited one main river drains the area, this being the BAK River which after running through most of the BAK Valley runs through a steep sided gorge into the ~~TEEN~~ ^{TEEN} Strickland River. Countless other small streams and creeks run through these three valleys and all eventually run off into the Strickland. On the Lake Kopiago side a river of note is the Tumbudu which is quite large, and like the BAK subject to flash flooding in times of heavy rain. This river was crossed twice on the patrol, but as the water was at a low ebb no difficulties were encountered.

The objects of the patrol as stated were to undertake routine administration in the valleys of the Oksapmin area, and to take a selection of Oksapmin people to Lake Kopiago for a general sightseeing tour of a station in another area. This in fact was the main reason for the patrol taking place, and as will be seen under Native Affairs the visit was undoubtedly a success.

The last DDA patrol in these valleys visited was conducted by the writer in May/June of this year. (See Oksapmin P/R No 8 of 64/65). Objects of this patrol being familiarization and routine administration. Mr. P. Lancaster Patrol Officer visited Lake Kopiago with a patrol from Oksapmin in October 1964. (Oks P/R No 2 of 1964/65).

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

As stated on ~~the~~ the cover of this report and in the introduction the reason for the patrol were to undertake routine administration and to take a selection of Oksapmin people on a tour to Lake Kopiago station. As the visit to Lake Kopiago was the main reason for this patrol taking place, this will be dealt with first.

For this patrol sixty carriers were used and these were drawn from the areas as follows :-

OM River area - 21 men from the villages of SUAMIN,
DURANNIN, KIAMIN, MONDUAMIN (1)
and ENIAPHIN.

Village Officials
from the valleys of
TEKIN, MYN TEKIN, - 20
DAK, NO 3 TEKIN &
TERANNIN.

Natives from BIMIN
& KUSKUSMIN in the - 19
NO 3 TEKIN VALLEY.

TOTAL 60.

As will be noted, with the exception of the village officials each and every one of the carriers were from the most primitive areas of this patrol post. This was deliberate as it was considered that these people would derive more benefit from this visit to Lake Kopiago and at the same time see how a patrol functioned, than would ~~some~~ their other Oksapmin counterparts who have had more Government contact, and who for the majority have all carried on government patrols. As seen above quite a number of village officials carried cargo and visited Lake Kopiago, this too can only be beneficial as all have now departed for their own villages to pass on news and information as to things seen and done whilst at Kopiago station.

It is believed that this is the first time that OM River natives have been used as carriers on a government patrol, and if so they worked extremely well. Being big and strong they carried their loads with ease and were extremely cheerful and happy during the duration of the patrol. To gather these 21 men for the patrol

Interpreters MANGITIPNOK and WUNLOT (both of whom are from the OM area - MANGIT from DURANNIN and WUNLOT a half DURANNIN and half MONDUAMIN) were sent to the area two weeks prior to the patrol moving off. These two men were given instructions to the effect that they were to make contact with as many males as possible, inform them of the patrols intention to visit Lake Kopiago, and that they could accompany and carry cargo if they so wished. It was thought that if they did manage to bring in some men they would be from the more contacted villages of SUAMIN and DURANNIN, so it was with great satisfaction that the writer observed that 5 men ~~from~~ from ENIAPHIN, 5 men from KIAMIN and 1 from MONDUAMIN were accompanying the two men as well as men from DURANNIN and SUAMIN. For two thirds of the 21 men

Cont'd.

NATIVE AFFAIRS CON'TD.

this was their first visit to Oksapmin so on arrival, after being given food and housing, they were shown around the station. It was then explained to them that now they had seen Oksapmin they could return to their villages if they so wished, but that as stated to them by the two interpreters they could accompany the patrol to Lake Kopiago. Without hesitation all of the men expressed the desire to accompany the patrol and all expressed a willingness to carry cargo.

The remainder of the carrier line (19) were drawn from the villages of BIMIN and KUSKUSMIN in the NO 3 TEKIN Valley. These 19 men, at the time final preparations for patrol were being made, were all working on the station, so no difficulties were encountered in bringing them in.

From the start of the patrol it could be seen that the carriers would be split up into three groups; those of the OM River area in one group, most of the village officials in another, and the men from the NO 3 TEKIN Valley (BIMIN & KUSKUSMIN) together with their village officials in yet another group. This persisted throughout the entire patrol, and although the men were more than friendly with one another they did not mix freely outside their own group. At each camp site each of the three groups immediately split up and built their own housing, and it could be noticed that even in the distribution of a pig, each group received a portion and moved off to cut up and share around. Careful enquiry both prior to the patrol and again after has brought to light the fact that the people in the area of this patrol post are in reality divided into three groups, these are as listed below. (as a point of note looking at these three groups is as taken from the view point of natives who class themselves as true Oksapmin people, and it is this group which constitutes the major part of the population of the Oksapmin area).

OXSAPMIN Group

- this name covers all the villages in the NTR TEKIN, TEKIN, BAK, GAWENG, RUGUP and TERANMIN Valleys.

SUAMIN Group.

- this apparently seems to cover all of the villages and hamlets in the OM River area, even though there is a village of that name.

BIMIN Group

- covers the two villages of BIMIN and KUSKUSMIN in the NO 3 TEKIN Valley. As these two villages speak the Telefolma language (they can speak that of Oksapmin also) they are not classed as true Oksapmins.

The writer was aware prior to the patrols departure that in fact in the Oksapmin area there were three different groups, and this was taken into account when selecting the carriers. It was thought far better to take three different linguistic groups to Lake Kopiago, than confine it wholly to one, such as selecting the carriers from the general Oksapmin area. The reasons are obvious; three groups can spread news and information as to things seen and done whilst at Lake Kopiago, much better than the one group could. When selecting the

CON'TD

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NATIVE AFFAIRS CONT'D.

men from the OM River area the writer had two reasons in mind, one being to show them that the rest of the world was vastly different to that of their villages, and secondly for them to carry cargo, see how a patrol operated, and at the same time work with other people of the Oksapmin area and see how and where they live. This is why the patrol returned via the BAK and TEKIN Valleys, so that the OM River men could observe and note how his other Oksapmin counterparts existed. The only time most of the OM River men have ~~seen~~ other Oksapmin people other ~~than~~ that of their own group is when government patrols visit their area and the carriers are Oksapmin locals.

The visit itself to Lake Kopiago was a success and although the ~~walking~~ was hard on the inward trip the carriers enjoyed the visit immensely. At the time of the patrols arrival at Lake Kopiago the army was moving out and consequently many different planes took off and landed which in itself quite impressed the Oksapmin people. Tractor rides proved popular and also the lake proved an attraction. On the Saturday a singing took place, with about fifty of the DUMA locals and the carriers taking part. This went on all afternoon and concluded with a feast in the evening, and proved a great success. A total of four days were spent at Lake Kopiago and in this time each point of interest was shown to the carriers, and I am sure that now all the carriers are back in their villages relating to all of things seen and done whilst on the other station.

It is felt that the visit of the OM River men to Lake Kopiago will help the next patrol to that area quite considerably. The men have seen how the government operates, know they have nothing to fear and full co-operation should be assured in the future. ~~XXXX~~ All men have now departed from the station assuring the writer that they will pass on the knowledge gained, and that from now on they will help the government in any way they can. (Sets hope they keep to this remark) The ENIAPHIN males (5) and the one MONDUAMIN in particular were quite impressed, and the next patrol to these two groups should show an increase in attendances to meet the patrol.

As mentioned it is believed that this is the first time that OM River men have carried cargo for a patrol. Overall they did quite a good job and, being big and strong handled their loads well. Although inclined to be rather lazy at times (never around when time to break camp) they were never pressed, ~~nevertheless they carried their~~ and in the end, at departure time they always seemed to have a ~~heavy~~ load, which was always shouldered without protest.

The BIDIN and KUSKUSMIN men were rather disappointing in their cargo carrying and they will be left off any future patrols. Generally they are not recruited as carriers, but as I wanted them to go to Lake - Kopiago they were tried out. Unlike the other carriers (both village officials and OM River) who worked well, they found both the walking and carrying too much and frequent rests had to be made. Still as they are new to the game they may improve.

A point of interest was that at Lake Kopiago there was a HEMA (SISIMIN) male who had accompanied a patrol back to the station and was now learning pidgin. WUNTOT the interpreter who can speak the HEMA(SISIMIN) language could not converse with him, yet an ENIAPHIN male could. WUNTOT who can speak the ENIAPHIN language was quite nonplussed at this, and it seems that if there must be more than the one HEMA(SISIMIN) dialect and that ENIAPHIN could be included in it. It is proposed to patrol through the area at the end of this month so this complex language system may be able to be untangled.

Question?

NATIVE AFFAIRS CONT'D.

GAHENG VALLEY.

There are two groups in this valley, these being the GAGUTIAN and the GATUGAN, and of the two groups approximately two thirds of the people were seen. Not being a census patrol this was to be expected and no comment was made on it. The patrol received a warm welcome and the people gave their full interest to the talks given by the patrol. As mentioned in the previous patrol report of this area the energy of the people of this valley is quite remarkable, and signs of labour could be seen, as the roads were all in excellent condition and the rest house quite a good feat of work. As mentioned in the previous report it was suggested that the rest house be removed from the old site on the top of the hill down to the present position, this has all been done, and together with a new police rest house, and one for the carriers it shows that the people desire to co-operate with the Administration. Again most of this stems from the village leader BAKFONDIT who in himself is quite an excellent worker and really keeps his people moving. Unfortunately he is in ill health at the moment, but is recovering and it is proposed that some time in the future he be sponsored on a visit to either Wewak or Telefoniu, as a reward for his untiring efforts.

RUCUP VALLEY.

The villages of DUBAN and KUSANBAK constitute the groups of this valley and members of both groups were seen. The DUBAN people are still extremely shy and it is only with patience and understanding that the government will get through to them. One of the DUBAN group assisted in guiding the patrol to Lake Koplogo, and on the return to DUBAN he assisted in ~~locating~~ locating part of the group. It is not certain where these people live, in fact one ~~even~~ even call them nomads as they seem to move about quite frequently. The DUBAN guide was not even sure where half his group was. Of the people seen local matters were discussed with them and an invitation put forward to visit Oksapmin. This was declined, however, they did state that they would visit at a later date.

Again most of the KUSANBAK group were seen and their attitude as before was one of friendliness and co-operation towards the patrol. In their own way they are quite energetic and rest house and paths leading to and from this site were in quite good shape. Talks on various subjects together with a short talk on decimal currency were held and interest was apparent. Talks on the latter were kept short and only the important points given out so that the people could at least gain some idea of what the change is all about. A good supply of native foods was purchased together with a large pig and it appears as though they are not short of food.

BAK VALLEY.

A total of seven groups inhabit this valley and people from each of these groups were seen. It was intended to visit KUNANA down towards the Strickland River but as most of this group was at ~~KUNANAK~~ KUSDODAN it was not worth the effort. The KUNATA people were informed that for the next patrol they were to remain in their own village, the patrol would visit them. Both the KUNANA group although shy, the KUSDODAN group were quite friendly towards the patrol and co- in the way of native foods and a pig was given.

(6)

NATIVE AFFAIRS CONT'D.

Increased attendance was the note at DABURA where an overnight stay was spent. Talks were given to the three groups of BAKANA, YENDANA and DABURA and it was noticeable that quite a lot more turned up to greet the patrol than for the previous patrol in May of this year. This was encouraging and shows that the people were interested in what the patrol had to say. Talks were given on various subjects and also a talk on decimal currency was given. The people were quite friendly towards the patrol and interest was apparent in the talks given. Again as in the previous patrol questions were asked quite freely about the introduction of decimal currency which was a good sign, and shows that the people are anxious to grasp what the changeover is all about.

No change was noted in the attitude of the MENAKA and KWETANA group at the top of the valley, towards the patrol. The people were rather indifferent and were not all interested in what the patrol had to say. As stated they are rather a pathetic lot and the village leaders are of no help to them. Some of this group have been working on the station and on the Tekin road, but it seems to have made no difference except for one or two men. However, with constant patrolling and given employment this group may improve.

In each of the villages visited on the ^{inner} ~~boundary~~ of the patrol talks were given. These covered a wide range of subjects including Admin policy, decimal currency, agriculture, housing and future patrolling and other matters and the peoples interest was apparent. A few minor complaints were heard, mainly involving their women and pigs, and all were able to be settled on the spot. Again they were advised that any major complaint, or in fact any complaint should be brought ~~xxx~~ to Uksapain where a neutral party could hear it out.

As stated talks were given on decimal currency and again these talks were received with mixed feelings, however, they are beginning to accept the change, and the changeover in this area should not effect any great difficulty. Many people of course were not at all keen on the idea but again it was explained that the changeover would be gradual, and that there was no fear of them losing their money, that if they wished to retain their ~~xxxxx~~ present money they could by all means do so. It was mentioned that the actual conversion would take many years and this, together with that mentioned above appeared to allay their fears. Talks on this subject together with illustrations will be included on all future patrols

AGRICULTURE.

Agriculture is of the subsistence nature, main crops grown being sweet potato and taro. This is supplemented with ~~pitpit~~ pitpit, sugar cane and to a small extent bananas.

Agriculture is of a shifting nature with the people moving from garden to garden as one is completed, generally if distances are involved the house moves with them; the old one deserted and a new one built on the garden site.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Housing in the area, surprisingly enough is quite good and encouragement was given the people to keep it that way. Their houses, although not up to the standard of other areas, nonetheless suffice, and are kept quite neat and tidy by the inhabitants.

There is no central housing pattern in any of the villages visited, the houses being spread over a wide area, generally in groups of two or three and usually near a garden, which at the time is usually being worked. Most houses are generally placed in a convenient spot in each village, both convenient for the people themselves and for the patrol party to reach. In most cases the rest house is built away from the people's own houses, and it is quite common to walk from rest house to rest house without sighting a single native house.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

Generally an average lot, however, they do their best and encouragement was given to them. The Luluai of DABURA, TINOGET of BAKANA and BAKFONDIT of SAGUTIAN are all quite capable, especially the latter person and all are strong, willing workers who maintain good control over their people.

Most of the village officials of the places visited were already with the patrol, having accompanied to Lake Kopiago and it is hoped that the visit there will do them good, whilst at the same time give them a chance to pass on to their people news of what they saw and took part in while at Lake Kopiago.

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HEALTH.

Health in the area is generally quite good, and only minor sores and the odd case of sickness were seen. The people have the Baptist Mission at TEKIN and the hospital at Oksapmin to look after them in times of sores and sickness.

A medical orderly accompanied the patrol throughout and administered treatment both to the carriers and village people alike.

Several of the carriers contracted sores and sickness enroute Lake Kopiago, however, the four day stopover together with the aid of the medical assistant, was enough to enable cures to be effected.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, COMMUNICATIONS.

Travelling throughout the area, in fact throughout the whole of Oksapmin is essentially on foot, and except for the stretch between TEKIN and Oksapmin where some day a tractor will go, will remain so for a long time to come.

ROADS AND BRIDGES. COMMUNICATIONS CONT'D.

The native paths or tracks throughout the area visited by the patrol were in quite good shape, maintenance being performed by the people prior to the arrival of the patrol.

As will be seen from the patrol diary going to and coming back from Lake Kapiago is by different routes. After walking the route to the station of Lake Kapiago is was deemed quite inadvisable to return that way, as the track was quite poor and every hour or so a mountain either had to be climbed or descended. It appears as if the Lake Kapiago native will not consider cutting around a ~~wicket~~ mountain, as the track led over the most steepest part of each and every hill or mountain climbed. By comparison the return route was relatively easy and after the first route leading to Kapiago was quite a pleasure to walk upon. It is quite a bit shorter too and it is suggested that any future patrols from Oksapmin to Lake Kapiago use this latter route both going to and coming back from this station.

Three weeks prior to the departure of the patrol a party was sent from Oksapmin to repair the cane suspension bridge across the Strickland River. Const. Wasinok who had had previous bridge building experience led this party and did a magnificent job on the repair of this bridge. He discarded the old bridge entirely and built a new one about ten yards upstream from the old site. The present bridge is now quite a remarkable piece of work and is extremely strong. Up to six people can cross at one time and there is only a small amount of sway, and as the bridge has a span of approximately 200 feet this is excellent. To lessen the sway of the bridge WASINOK wound cane strips right around the bridge so that it now looks like a long cocoon. This of course ~~wakes~~ makes the crossing slightly more difficult, especially in the bringing across of patrol boxes and because of the smallness of the cocoon in the centre one cannot stand upright and the boxes have to be more or less dragged. However, this is only a minor difficulty, and it is thought that the idea of winding the cane strips around to form a cocoon is quite a good one as it lessens the amount of sway in the bridge quite considerably.

As all new cane was used on building this new bridge ~~now~~ it should be safe for a patrol to cross for at least another six months, perhaps more, so that if a patrol from Lake Kapiago wish to pay a reciprocal visit to Oksapmin they will be free to do so, and will not have the barrier of the Strickland River facing them.

CONCLUSION.

As stated a patrol whose main aim was to take a selection of Oksapmin people for a visit to Lake Kapiago, and at the same time undertake ~~the~~ routine administration in parts of the Oksapmin area. Both of these objects were achieved and it is felt that the patrol party ~~was successful~~, worked well to achieve these objects.

It is suggested too that the visit to Lake Kapiago be made an annual event, as it affords a change for the people of this area to mix with and see people of another district, and at the same time see things at another station which cannot be seen at Oksapmin. Both carriers and patrol members alike enjoyed the visit to Lake Kapiago, and as it can only be beneficial to the carriers accompanying the patrol can be considered to have been a success.

[Signature]
Patrol Officer

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & M.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

SET. 3RD CLASS OMAR NO 1849.

At times found the walking rather hard, however, as he is getting on in years this is understandable. Is a willing worker and was an asset to the patrol. Has good control over his fellow workers. Conduct good.

CONST MANDAKEI NO 9433.

A willing worker and again an asset to any patrol, especially in area such as this. Is always cheerful and conduct was good at all times.

CONST OVRISIM No 7404.

Rather quiet but works well and does what he is told. Conduct good.

CONST WASINOK NO 8991.

An excellent walker and also a good worker. Can be relied on at all times. Conduct good.
